Appl. No. 10/017,785 Amdt. dated October 27, 2005 Reply to Office action of August 8, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants have received the Office action dated August 8, 2005, in which the Examiner: 1) rejected claims 1-5, 7 and 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Jones (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0065730); 2) rejected claims 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones in view of Slaughter (U.S. Pat. No. 5,598,536); 3) rejected claims 6, 8, and 20-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones; 4) rejected claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones in view of Slaughter and Cannella (U.S. Pat. No. 6,144,561); and 5) indicated that claim 19 contains allowable subject matter. With this response, Applicants have amended claim 7 and added a new claim 25.

I. THE STATUS OF JONES AS "PRIOR ART"

The publication date of Jones (April 3, 2003) is after Applicants' filing date (December 13, 2001). As such, Jones cannot qualify as "prior art" under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). To the extent that Jones qualifies as prior art at all, it would qualify as prior art under § 102(e), as the Examiner will no doubt agree.

As 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) states, "Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person." The inventors of the Jones reference and the present application were, at the time of filing the present application, subject to an obligation of assignment to a common assignee, as supported by the assignments filed with respect to each application, attached as Exhibits A and B respectively. Accordingly, because the Jones reference is available as a prior art reference, if at all, only under § 102(e), and because the inventors of the Jones reference and the present application were, at the time of filing the present application, subject to an obligation of assignment to a common assignee, Applicants respectfully submit that the Jones reference may not be used in an obviousness rejection against the claims of the present application, alone or in

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combination with any other reference. Thus for at least this reason, the Examiner's obviousness rejections of claims 6, 8-13 and 20-24 are improper.

II. THE CLAIM REJECTIONS

With regard to claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Jones includes all of the claimed limitations. Jones, however, lacks the claimed power backplane. In fact, Jones does not disclose how power is transferred from the power rails to each server. The Examiner is reminded that Jones cannot be used in an obviousness rejection of claim 1. Furthermore, the other art of record does not satisfy this deficiency of Jones. For this reason, independent claim 1 and its dependent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance over the cited art.

Applicants amend claim 7 to refer to a "power backplane." As explained above, none of the cited art disclose this limitation. For this reason, independent claim 7 and its dependent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance over the cited art.

Claim 16 requires a "power backplane." For this reason, independent claim 16 and its dependent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance over the cited art. Additionally, claim 16 includes "a data backplane." Jones does not disclose "a data backplane," nor does any other art of record satisfy this deficiency of Jones. For this additional reason, claim 16 and its dependent claims are allowable over the cited art.

The Examiner will note that Applicants have added new claim 25 requiring "the power backplane comprises a circuit board." None of the cited art disclose this limitation. For this reason, claim 25 is believed to be in condition for allowance over the cited art.

III. CONCLUSION

In the course of the foregoing discussions, Applicants may have at times referred to claim limitations in shorthand fashion, or may have focused on a particular claim element. This discussion should not be interpreted to mean that the other limitations can be ignored or dismissed. The claims must be viewed as a whole, and each limitation of the claims must be considered when determining the patentability of the claims. Moreover, it should be understood that there may

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Appl. No. 10/017,785 Amdt. dated October 27, 2005 Reply to Office action of August 8, 2005

be other distinctions between the claims and the cited art which have yet to be raised, but which may be raised in the future.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonna T. Flores

PTO Reg. No. 56,803 CONLEY ROSE, P.C.

(713) 238-8000 (Phone) (713) 238-8008 (Fax)

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY Intellectual Property Administration Legal Dept., M/S 35 P.O. Box 272400 Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

OCT 2 7 2005

1662-40700 (P01-3594)

Form PTO-1595	RECORDATION FORM	A COVER SHEET	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
(Rev. 03/01)	PATENTS ONLY U.S. Patent and Trademark Office		
OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 5/31/2002) Tab settings ⇔ ⇔ ⇒ ▼	▼ ▼	_ V 1	▼ ▼
	of Patents and Trademarks:	Please record the attached	original documents or copy thereof.
Name of conveying party(ies): A. Kevin M. JONES		Name and address Name: Compaq I	s of receiving party(les) nformation Technologies Group, L.P.
B. Andrew C. CARTES	_	Internal Address:	
Additional name(s) of conveying party(les)	attached? 📮 Yes 🛂 No		
3. Nature of conveyance:	5		
Assignment	Merger	Street Address:	20555 State Highway 249
Security Agreement	Change of Name	01100(710410001	
A. November 27, 2001 B. November 28, 2001 Execution Date:		•	State:TexasZip:_77070address(es) attached? 📮 Yes 🛂 No
4. Application number(s) or paten	t number(s):		·
		cation, the execution	date of the application is:
A. Patent Application No.(s)		B. Patent No.(s)	
09/966,301			
	Additional numbers at	tached? 📮 Yes 🛂 No	
Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: Jonathan M. Harris		6. Total number of a	pplications and patents involved:
		7. Total fee (37 CFR	\$ 3.41)\$ <u>40.00</u>
Internal Address: CONLEY, ROSE & TAYON, P.C.		Enclosed	
		Authorized to	be charged to deposit account
Street Address: P.O. Box 3267		8. Deposit account	number:
		03-2769	
City: Houston State: Texa	Zip: 77253-3267	(Attach duplicate copy	y of this page if paying by deposit account)
	DO NOT US	E THIS SPACE	
9. Statement and signature.		*	d annual and any attached conv
To the best of my knowledge a is a true copy of the original do	and belief, the foregoing	Information is true and	d correct and any attached copy
Jonathan M. Harris, Reg. No. 4		the mother	December 10, 2001
Name of Person Signi	ng V	Signature	Date
Total n	umber of pages including cov	er sheet, attachments, and	documents: 3

Attorney Docket No. 1662-40700 Client Docket No. P01-3594

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We, Kevin M. JONES and Andrew C. CARTES, are joint inventors of "METHOD FOR DETERMINING A PRIMARY COMMUNICATION MODULE" application for United States Letters Patent Serial No. 09/966,301, filed September 28, 2001, and

WHEREAS, COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., a Texas limited partnership, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the aforesaid invention throughout the world, and all right, title and interest in, to and under any and all Letters Patent of the United States and all other countries throughout the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., all right, title and interest in and to the said invention throughout the world, and said application for U.S. Letters Patent, and any and all divisions, continuations, and reissues thereof, and any and all Letters Patent of the United States and foreign countries which may be granted therefor, the same to be held and enjoyed by COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., for its own use and benefit, and for the use and benefit of its successors, assigns, or other legal representatives, to the end of the term or terms for which said Letters Patent of the United States or foreign countries are or may be granted or reissued, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us if this assignment and sale had not been made.

And we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all Letters Patent of the United States on said invention or resulting from said application and from any and all divisions, continuations, and reissues thereof, to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., as assignee of our entire interest, and hereby covenant that we have the full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that we have not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith.

And we further hereby covenant and agree that we will, at any time, upon request, execute and deliver any and all papers that may be necessary or desirable to perfect the title of said invention and to such Letters Patent as may be granted therefor, to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns, or other legal representatives and that if COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns or other legal representatives shall desire to file any divisional or continuation applications or to secure a reissue of such Letters Patent, or to file a disclaimer relating thereto, will upon request, sign all papers, make all rightful oaths and do all lawful acts requisite for the filing of such divisional or continuation application, or such application for reissue and the procuring thereof, and for the filing of such disclaimer, without further compensation but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, or other legal representatives.

And we do further covenant and agree that we will, at any time upon request, communicate to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns or other legal representatives, such facts relating to said invention and Letters Patent or

Attorney Docket No. 1662-40700 Client Docket No. P01-3594

the file history thereof as may be known to us, and testify as to the same in any interference or other litigation when requested so to do, without further compensation but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, or other legal representatives.

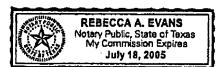
EXECUTED THIS 27 day of November, 2001.

Kevin M. JONES

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF HARRIS

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Kevin M. JONES, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this 27 _ day of Neember, 2001.



EXECUTED THIS 29 day of November, 2001.

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF HARRIS

> JULIE KAY DICKERSON Notary Public, State of Texas Commission Expires August 14, 2005

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Andrew C. CARTES, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this 28 day of 100, 2001.

and for the State of Texas

61469.01/1662.40700

Page 2 of 2

EXHIBIT "A" Page 3 of 3

1662-39100 (P98-2403)

			LIC DEDICTION OF COMMEDCE		
Form PTO-1595 (Rev. 03/01)	RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office				
OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 5/31/2002).					
Tab settings ⇔⇔ ➡ ♥	▼▼	_ y y	▼ ▼		
To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.					
Name of conveying party(ies):		1	s of receiving party(ies) nformation Technologies Group, L.P.		
A. Michael C. SANDERS B. John D. NGUYEN C. Randall PASCARELLA					
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? 🖵 Yes 🔁 No	·			
3. Nature of conveyance:					
Assignment	Merger	Street Address: 20555 State Highway 249	20555 State Highway 249		
Security Agreement	Change of Name	Street Address.			
Other					
B. June 25, 2002		City: Houston	State: Texas Zip: 77070		
Execution Date: C. June 25, 2002		Additional name(s) &	address(es) attached? 📮 Yes 🛂 No		
4. Application number(s) or pater	t number(s):				
If this document is being filed to	ogether with a new appli	cation, the execution of	date of the application is:		
A. Patent Application No.(s)		B. Patent No.(s)			
10/017,785					
	Additional numbers at	ached? 📮 Yes 🙀 No			
5. Name and address of party to	whom correspondence	6. Total number of ap	oplications and patents involved:		
concerning document should b Name: Jonathan M. Harris	e maneu.	7. Total fee (37 CFR	3.41)\$ <u>40.00</u> .		
Internal Address: CONLEY, RO	OSE & TAYON, P.C.	Enclosed			
ARTHAI AUGIOSS.		Authorized to	be charged to deposit account		
Street Address: P.O. Box 3267		8. Deposit account r	number:		
		03-2769			
City: Houston State: Texa	Lip: 77253-3267	(Attach duplicate copy	of this page if paying by deposit account)		
DO NOT USE THIS SPACE					
9. Statement and signature.					
To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy					
is a true copy of the original do	, ,	H ha Hi	June 27, 2002		
Jonathan M. Harris, Reg. No. 4 Name of Person Signii		Signature	Date		
•	umber of pages including cover	er sheet, attachments, and	documents: 7		

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments Washington, D.C. 20231

EXHIBIT "B" Page 1 of 7

Attorney Docket No. 1662-39100 Client Docket No. P98-2403

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We, Michael C. SANDERS, John D. NGUYEN and Randall PASCARELLA, are joint inventors of "REDUNDANT DATA AND POWER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR MODULAR SERVER COMPONENTS IN A application for United States Letters Patent Serial No. 10/017,785, filed December 13, 2001; and

WHEREAS, COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., a Texas limited partnership, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the aforesaid invention throughout the world, and all right, title and interest in, to and under any and all Letters Patent of the United States and all other countries throughout the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., all right, title and interest in and to the said invention throughout the world, and said application for U.S. Letters Patent, and any and all divisions, continuations, and reissues thereof, and any and all Letters Patent of the United States and foreign countries which may be granted therefor, the same to be held and enjoyed by COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., for its own use and benefit, and for the use and benefit of its successors, assigns, or other legal representatives, to the end of the term or terms for which said Letters Patent of the United States or foreign countries are or may be granted or reissued, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us if this assignment and sale had not been made.

And we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all Letters Patent of the United States on said invention or resulting from said application and from any and all divisions, continuations, and reissues thereof, to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., as assignee of our entire interest, and hereby covenant that we have the full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that we have not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith.

And we further hereby covenant and agree that we will, at any time, upon request, execute and deliver any and all papers that may be necessary or desirable to perfect the title of said invention and to such Letters Patent as may be granted therefor, to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns, or other legal representatives and that if COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns or other legal representatives shall desire to file any divisional or continuation applications or to secure a reissue of such Letters Patent, or to file a disclaimer relating thereto, will upon request, sign all papers, make all rightful oaths and do all lawful acts requisite for the filing of such divisional or continuation application, or such application for reissue and the procuring thereof, and for the filing of such disclaimer, without further compensation but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, or other legal representatives.

And we do further covenant and agree that we will, at any time upon request, communicate to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns or other legal representatives, such facts relating to said invention and Letters Patent or the file history thereof as may be known to us, and testify as to the same in any interference or other litigation when requested so to do, without further compensation but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, or other legal representatives.

Attorney Docket No. 1662-39100 Client Docket No. P98-2403

EXECUTED THIS /oth day of June, 2002.
Michael C. SANDERS By: Vivian McDaniel-Sanders Executrix of the Estate of Michael C. Sanders
STATE OF TEXAS § COUNTY OF HARRIS §
BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Vivian McDANIEL-SANDERS, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this 10th day of 10th day o
EXECUTED THIS day of, 2002.
SIGNED SEPARATELY John D. NGUYEN
STATE OF TEXAS § COUNTY OF HARRIS §
BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared John D. NGUYEN, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this day of, 2002.
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Attorney Docket No. 1662-39100 Client Docket No. P98-2403

EXECUTED THIS day of, 2002.
SIGNED SEPARATELY
Randall PASCARELLA
STATE OF TEXAS § COUNTY OF HARRIS §
BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Randall PASCARELLA, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this day of, 2002.
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

P. 02

Attorney Docket No. 1662-39100 Client Docket No. P98-2403

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We, Michael C. SANDERS, John D. NGUYEN and Randall PASCARELLA, are joint inventors of "REDUNDANT DATA AND POWER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR MODULAR SERVER COMPONENTS IN A RACK" application for United States Letters Patent Serial No. 10/017,785, filed December 13, 2001; and

WHEREAS, COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., a Texas limited partnership, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the aforesaid invention throughout the world, and all right, title and interest in, to and under any and all Letters Patent of the United States and all other countries throughout the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., all right, title and interest in and to the said invention throughout the world, and said application for U.S. Letters Patent, and any and all divisions, continuations, and reissues thereof, and any and all Letters Patent of the United States and foreign countries which may be granted therefor, the same to be held and enjoyed by COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., for its own use and benefit, and for the use and benefit of its successors, assigns, or other legal representatives, to the end of the term or terms for which said Letters Patent of the United States or foreign countries are or may be granted or reissued, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us if this assignment and sale had not been made.

And we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all Letters Patent of the United States on said invention or resulting from said application and from any and all divisions, continuations, and reissues thereof, to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., as assignee of our entire interest, and hereby covenant that we have the full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that we have not executed and will not execute any agreement in conflict herewith.

And we further hereby covenant and agree that we will, at any time, upon request, execute and deliver any and all papers that may be necessary or desirable to perfect the title of said invention and to such Letters Patent as may be granted therefor, to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns, or other legal representatives and that if COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns or other legal representatives shall desire to file any divisional or continuation applications or to secure a reissue of such Letters Patent, or to file a disclaimer relating thereto, will upon request, sign all papers, make all rightful oaths and do all lawful acts requisite for the filing of such divisional or continuation application, or such application for reissue and the procuring thereof, and for the filing of such disclaimer, without further compensation but at the expense of said assignce, its successors, or other legal representatives.

And we do further covenant and agree that we will, at any time upon request, communicate to COMPAQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES GROUP, L.P., its successors, assigns or other legal representatives, such facts relating to said invention and Letters Patent or the file history thereof as may be known to us, and testify as to the same in any interference or other litigation when requested so to do, without further compensation but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, or other legal representatives.

Page 1 of 3

EXHIBIT "B" Page 5 of 7

JUN-25-02 TUE 06:04 PM

FAX NO.

P. 03

Attorney Docket No. 1662-39100 Client Docket No. P98-2403

EXECUTED THISday of2002.
Michael C. SANDERS By: Vivian McDanicl-Sanders Executrix of the Estate of Michael C. Sanders
STATE OF TEXAS § COUNTY OF HARRIS §
BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Vivian McDANIEL-SANDERS, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this day of, 2002.
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas ***********************************
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this day of, 2002.
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas
Page 2 of 3 EXHIBIT

JUN-25-02 TUE 06:04 PM

FAX NO.

P. 04

Attorney Docket No. 1662-39100 Client Docket No. P98-2403

EXECUTED THIS 25 day of JUNE 2002.

Randall PASCARELLA

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF HARRIS

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Randall PASCARELLA, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this 35th day of June 2002.



Notary Public in and for the State of Texas